FRA EO 26 – Electronic and Electrical Device Flow Chart
When are RR operating employees prohibited from using electronic and electrical devices?

Personal or RR supplied electronic/electrical devices may NOT interfere with RR operating employees performance of safety related duties

Use of RR supplied electronic/electrical devices PROHIBITED when:

- Other RR Operating Employee*

  On a moving train unless:
  - Authorized for business purpose
  - A safety briefing is held
  - Crew agrees it is safe to do so
  - Authorized business purpose within the body of a passenger train or RR business car

  Outside the cab unless:
  - Not fouling a track
  - No Switching Operation is underway
  - No other safety related duties
  - All crew members have been briefed that operations are suspended

- Locomotive Engineer/RCO

  On a moving train
  - During switching Operations when:
    - Duty requires crew member to be on the ground
    - Crew member is riding rolling equipment during a switching operation
    - When another employee of the RR is assisting in preparation of the train (e.g., air brake test)

- All RR Operating Employees*

  On a moving train
  - During switching Operations when:
    - Duty requires crew member to be on the ground
    - Crew member is riding rolling equipment during a switching operation
    - When another employee of the RR is assisting in preparation of the train (e.g., air brake test)

Personal electronic/electrical devices MUST BE TURNED OFF with earpiece removed when:

- (other than a hearing aid device)

Exceptions:

- May use electronic control systems/informational displays within the cab or on remote control transmitter; or remote transmitter to operate or conduct switching operations (e.g. switches)
- Employee may refer to a digital timepiece to ascertain time of day/verify accuracy of speed indicator
- Employee may use during an operating emergency, radio failure; or to reference electronically stored rules
- As authorized under 49 CFR 220, may use RR supplied or authorized in lieu of RR radio to conduct operations

Note:

Use of personal electronic/electrical devices for other than voice communication is prohibited except as noted above

*Means a person performing duties subject to 49 U.S.C. 21103, “limitation on duty hours of train employees.”